

**P A T E N T**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant:	Eric L.Gray et al.	Confirmation No.:	8940
Serial No.:	10/821,617	Examiner:	Michael J. Araj
Filed:	April 9, 2004	Group Art Unit:	3733
Docket No.:	1292.1223101	Customer No.:	28075
Title:	TEMPORARY SPINAL FIXATION APPARATUSES AND METHODS		

**AMENDMENT**

MAIL STOP: AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**CERTIFICATE FOR ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION:**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being electronically transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2008.

By

  
Rachel Gagliardi

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action of the Examiner mailed March 25, 2008, with a shortened statutory period set to expire on June 25, 2008.

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.